

Hawaiian Gazette.

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SEMI-WEEKLY.
ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR.

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A. W. PEARSON,
Manager

TUESDAY : : JANUARY 28.

The vegetable seeds received by the Commissioner of Agriculture are for free distribution, and no one will be refused any who calls at Mr. Taylor's office in the basement of the Capitol building.

The intention of Secretary Shaw not to lose his hold on the Iawa voters while shelved in the Cabinet appears in the press notice that he eats pie three times a day.

So far this has been an unusually cool and pleasant winter and one which has seen little of Kona storms. There is plenty of chance yet for an eccentric temperature, but what is past is at least secure and for this, much thanks.

Canada threatens, if trade concessions are not made to her, to adopt the American tariff. Let her. The next thing she will have to deal with is an annexation party at home, whose numbers and influence will grow every time a Canadian casts up his accounts.

Judging from the fate of the Volcano and the approaching fate of the Republic, the business of attacking the vested interests of Hawaii is not precisely lucrative. The money lost in the undertaking, all told, would make a handsome fortune for the man who could find it.

The President of the Board of Health is to be congratulated on the promised success of his efforts to redeem Kewalo. The place is a fester-spot, the eradication of which has been a topic of active discussion between the Board of Health and the Public Works Department for some time past.

It will not be long before the trolley cars, bearing the pioneer flag of the Rapid Transit company, will reach Waikeke. Work on the extension is to begin this week. Before a great while, judging from the state of the company's business, the stockholders will feel like gridding the entire city and its suburbs.

This is the birthday of Emperor William of Germany. It is an event which, more than is usually the case in the careers of modern rulers, is worth celebrating. The average European King is not of much account save by inherited position and the power this gives him; but the Kaiser is a natural leader of men—a sovereign man in a sovereign place. As such he deserves honor at the hands of the citizens of a republic which selects its Presidents by merit, as well as fealty and devotion from men who acknowledge his rule.

The coinage bill which the Home Rule organ says was introduced by Delegate Wilcox to a friend for introduction is actually the bill which William Hayward prepared and filed through Congressman Hill of Connecticut. Mr. Hill is the representative who, on his visit to Honolulu last year, spoke of Wilcox as a man "utterly without influence in the House." That is the sort of a friend for Wilcox the Home Rule paper now claims. As for the Hawaiian delegate, he could not draw a bill to save his neck. All he ever drew in Congress was his mileage and salary, and he had to have help about that.

Captain Merry, a qualified judge of matters maritime, speaks in a hopeful way both of the Condor and the Sheridan. Touching the rumor about the Sheridan, it is stated that special editions of San Francisco evening papers contained it, but nobody on the Ventura seems to have had interest enough in the matter to buy a paper and bring it along. We are surprised, if news of this character was current in San Francisco before the Ventura sailed, that the Advertiser heard nothing of it either from its Associated Press correspondent. Of course the tale may be true, but so far it has not been presented in a probable guise.

A BAD SYSTEM.

One trouble with the volunteer system of raising armies is to get men into the ranks after popular enthusiasm has cooled off. We found it so in 1863 and the bounty system, to be shortly followed by the draft, had to be adopted to keep the battle line full. Tens of thousands of the professional patriots who have done politics since the war were either bribed or dragged into the army and the more strenuous the national crisis was the more force had to be applied to them. England, it seems, is having an initial experience similar to our own. She wants volunteers, some for South African service and others for a home guard; but as the glitter of the military life has worn off during the last two years and as enlistment demands some self-sacrifice, the young men will not enroll. So far the call for volunteers is unanswered and conscription may take its place.

It is only when war begins, after the cankers of a long peace, that volunteering booms; but that is the time when a trained army and not an undrilled mob of civilians, is needed to defend the country. In our civil war volunteers fought volunteers, and it was two years before either side got on a soldierly basis. Had either party met a great army of regulars it would have had few victories to its credit.

For a country to be safe from invasion in these times it must be defended by soldiers who know their business; not by civilians who have the business of disciplined fighting to learn.

A PROGRAM OF RUIN.

It is an abuse of the word "progress" when it is used to justify the creation of city and county governments in Hawaii. Such a policy would mean retrogression of the most serious kind, in that it would put the power of taxation and disbursement into the itching hands of that part of our Polynesian race which is least qualified to use the privilege of city and county rule for corrupt and alien ends.

Outside readers should know that the problem of local self-government here presents phases wholly foreign to the same problem on the mainland. There, it is the mere question of giving Americans by birth, descent and naturalization—the first two classes being in a majority over all—a chance to rule under rights which they are qualified to exercise. Here it means the delivery of the public and to a large extent the private interests of 2000 white voters and of perhaps 1000 native and half-native voters of intelligence and capacity, constituting the owners of the property and of the business of the Hawaiian Islands, into the hands of the degraded and irresponsible section of our Polynesian race whom Congress so prematurely enfranchised. The mainland instance means a rough average of good government, marked with sporadic cases, as in the great cities, of maladministration; the local instance, on the other hand, means an endless chain of bad government, based on the idea that a public office is a public graft.

Observe the conditions: Congress has put the majority vote of Hawaii in the hands of men who, as a general thing, cannot talk English; whose character has never had a moral trend; who are notoriously unthrifty; who are monarchists in sympathy and would like to be in politics; who hate white men and especially Americans; who know nothing about the science of government; who are removed by but little more than a generation from savagery, and who are led, not only by their own demagogues, but by the worst class of white carpet-baggers. These people form what is known as the Home Rule party. They elected to Congress a native half-white who, less than three years ago, professed in writing his services to Aguinaldo, and who has been a dismal failure in office; and a legislator which made the most extraordinary record known to the history of American law-makers. What that record was, partially appears in that standard publication, Thrum's Hawaiian Annual, from which we quote:

"The republican minority of both houses did well in saving the country from a number of disgraceful measures. Persistent effort was made to saddle the city with a fifty-year franchise in favor of the Tramway Company, attempt was made to legalize gambling, and to revive kahunaism; compulsory vaccination was repealed and a reduction of dog tax made a pet measure. An act to create counties and municipalities, ill drawn and badly considered in the lower house, was passed by them for the senate to amend, but that body passed it defiantly with all its crudities, because the minority did not like it as it stood. Much disappointment was felt by them at the bill meeting with a 'pocket veto' for Home Rulers and a certain foreign element hoped thereby to 'curtail the governor's power by placing appointments and expenditures in the hands of native voters organized to put down the power of the whites.'"

Practically the whole session was taken up with childish wrangling. Desirable measures for the promotion of government and public welfare were neglected or studiously blocked in committee, as in the case of the loan measure and appropriation bills, expecting thereby to force an extension of the session which had been refused them on the ground that 'the methods of the present session had been so wasteful of both time and money with little to show for a large expenditure of public funds.'"

At the close of the regular term they were immediately called in special session to consider the appropriations, and the same inability to confine themselves to the duty they were called for to manifest. The time limit expired before the act was through its third reading and the session had to be extended several days for this purpose, finally adjourning July 29th, at an expense to the country of \$45,000 for its term of sixty days and \$17,000 for its thirty days extra session, far exceeding the most expensive previous legislature known in these islands, which was in 1885, when \$18,841.08 was required to defray the expenses of its long session of 129 days.

The Home Rule legislators are the leaders of the people from whose ranks city and county officials would be taken. Officials of such an origin would no more be qualified to carry on public business than were the freedmen of the South in reconstruction times. Their policy would be to multiply patronage, increase taxes and taboo white men, save the carpet-baggers who are in with them for the spoils. Investment here would stop, business would be hurt and in the end the white people would be compelled, as was the case with white people in the Southern States, to take matters in their own hands. To such predatory and violent ends—to such losses and destruction and misrule—the proposal at this time to have city and county government obviously tends.

Public duty demands that the subdivision of official responsibility here shall await the growth of a responsible voting majority. In no other way can the future of Hawaii redound to the credit of the expansion policy of the United States, nor even of civilization itself.

CAN LEPROSY BE CURED?

The statement made on good authority, that the Tui-Tua, an anti-leprosy shrub, has almost cured an advanced case of leprosy in Tahiti, should have the careful notice of the Hawaiian Board of Health. The Tui-Tua was sent here by the botanical section of the Agricultural Department with a story to the effect that it was highly valued in South America as a specific for the most dreaded of human maladies. In this city the shrub is growing vigorously, and a fluid made from it and sent to Tahiti has nearly, it is said, restored a young leper to health and strength.

Science believes that every bane, save death, has its antidote. The thing is to find it. Scores of diseases, including smallpox, can be prevented or relieved by some remedy once a secret of nature. Perhaps, in Tui-Tua, we have at last found the medicine before which the leprosy will pass from among the

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Hope lives eternal in the human breast, and the happy facility with which the third party turns from defeat to anticipation proves the fact. Certainly, when everything is said, that party puts its best foot and its best men forward. It is not for mortals to command success, but they may do better by deserving it, and a ticket made up of men like Messrs. Damon, McGrew, Isenberg, et al., has nothing except its Democracy to apologize for. But does it not seem a pity that such men should be wasted on a third party when the emergency in these islands is of a kind to demand the union under one local political banner of every citizen who has the well-being of Hawaii at heart?

Had the Democracy as the minority joined hands with the Republicans as a majority of the two in 1900, Wilcox could have been beaten for Congress. His was not a majority but a plurality success. There was a chance, also, to capture the Legislature and carry on public business in a decent, orderly and productive manner. But adherence to national party forms in local matters, cost us two years of progress. To prove our belief in sound money on the one side—for which we could not vote—and in 16 to 1 on the other—also, an issue no citizen of this Territory could possibly affect at the polls, we permitted the worst part of the Territorial electorate to control our local administrative affairs. That was neither good politics nor good business, nor good sense. It was the worst we could do for ourselves. The way would not have been Cleveland's or Roosevelt's, for they, in similar position, would have been first to insist on a union of all honest men for honest government. But it was our way, Republicans and Democrats alike, and see what we are getting for it.

The Advertiser does not attempt to say what course the Republican party will pursue, owing to the number of men in its councils who are there to do Home Rule politics. But it holds that, if every man who believes in developing this Territory along American lines, and in making politics pure and public policy deserving, should vote a good government ticket, that ticket would carry the Legislature and, in case of a vacancy win a Congressional seat. The census of the respectable white men and respectable native Hawaiians, the revelation of small numerical support shown in the recent failure of two organs of the white job chasers, the number of good citizens who have gained a vote since a year ago last fall—all these things are well looking into by those who want, at the next election, to do what is best for the Territory.

DEAD BUT NOT MISSED.

The Honolulu Republican, which was started about a year and a half ago, passed quietly away and was buried on Saturday last. Besides the owner and his staff there were no mourners at the funeral, nor did any one send flowers. The occasion reminded one of that which Mr. Joshua Whitcomb of "The Old Homestead," had in mind when, in answer to the inquiry of a boy about the "complaint" of which Bill Collins died, answered: "There wasn't no complaint at all. Everybody was satisfied."

If there ever was a case of false pretence in the matter of business prospects, business achievements, etc., it was that presented by the unlamented sheet which has now gone to its natural bourne. It was hardly a fortnight old before it began talking of its "large circulation." Later it used the adjective "enormous." In six months' time it programmed a "Republican building," to be constructed so that the "great machines" used to turn off the "multitude of papers" could be seen from the street—a structure with thousands of square feet for the "art room" and palatial fittings generally. All this time the Republican's actual paid circulation, as employees declared, was about three hundred (worth \$225 per month, less percentage to newsboys), the rest of the edition going free to officials and others at Washington or to people on the other islands. These tactics served to delude some few business men who advertised and thereby wasted every nickel they put in, the three hundred circulation being by no means exclusive. But the tactics did not pay bills. There was a deficit so great that the principal stockholder now confesses to a personal loss of over \$10,000—which he fondly hopes to get back by running his job office in the honored name of the late Robert Grieve. Even at the time when the Republican, through a shady deal with the Home Rule Legislature, got a large amount of public printing without bids and at its own price, even then the monthly deficit, as a disgusted stockholder tells us, was never less than \$300.

One may easily judge from the fate of the Republican and its congeners, the Volcano, how small the numerical strength of the white anti-Dole faction actually is. While the journals which represent good government and the commercial needs of the islands have been growing stronger month by month and year by year, the journals of the opposition faction have had to let two out of their three accepted organs go to the wall, and the other is in such unfortunate shape that it dare not let the newsdealers tell of its sales. All it does is to adopt the boasting tone with which the Republican and the Volcano went to their graves—"the leading papers" to the last.

LOCAL FLAVIES.

His our flesh is heir to. If so what a boon to the world in general and to the Hawaiian islands in particular.

Would it not be possible to keep two or three patients at Kailahi, who are willing to try the remedy, until an experiment in their cure has had as much time as may be needed for it? Success in the measure would be one of the achievements to rank high among all that may come to honor medical science in the twentieth century.

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